(ii) An importer imported disperse dyes which were found, on investigations and chemical examination, to/grossly under-invoiced. The attempted duty evasion is approximately Rs.32 lakh. The goods have been seized. The case has been adjudicated. The goods were confiscated with an option given to the importer to redeem the goods in payment of a fine of Rs. 1.5 crores were seized from a residential premises in Madras and were handed to the Forest Department for further action. Show-Cause-Notice is being issued. Investigations also revealed involvement of a clearing agent in the alleged evasion of customs duty and therefore his Customs House Agent Licence has been suspended.

(v) A party imported mechanical components of Dot Matrix Printers. Examination of the goods revealed that they had also imported an electronic part fitted on the mechanical part to claim the benefit of a customs notification for which they were not entitled. The case was adjusticated and extra duty of Rs. 95.86 lakhs has been demanded.

(vi) An importer imported and cleared a consignment delcared as a new Multi-Layer Coater Machine. Investigation revealed that they had also imported a Calendering Machine by concealing it. Alleged duty evasion us Rs. 9.64 lakhs. Investigation also revealed violation of the provisions of the Import Trade Control Regulations. Show Cause Notice has been issued. However, further proceedings have been stayed by the Madras High Court.

Investigations carried out in these cases have so far not revealed any involvement of any customs officials.

Strict vigil is being maintained by Intelligence agencies in the Custom house and the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence to prevent such attempts of duty evasion.

[*Translation*]

Merger of Diesel Engine Plant, Ranchi with BHEI

5921. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level Committee of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited has conducted any investigations into the Diesel Engine Plant Ranchi in Bihar in order to attach it with BHEL;

(b) whether the Committee has recommended to handover the said factory to BHEL as its unit;

(c) if so, the time by which the Government propose to handover the Diesel Engine Plant of Ranchi to BHEL; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. However, some BHEL executives did visit, DEP, Ranchi to obtain some relevent details.

(b) and (c). Although BHEL had,, at stage, indicated that it would have no objection to taking over the unit, the Ministry of Defence decided that there was no justification for the transfer of the unit from GRSE to BHEL.

(d) The unit is doing well under GRSE and a substantial proportion of its production realties to defence and shipboard applications. BHEL have accordingly closed the case.